Cultivated trees are common in Boston and its vicinity, but I have never met with it in the woods of this part of the country, nor to the north of it upon the sea board.

In point of size the Liriodendron is exceeded by few trees of the North American forest. Its growth is regular, straight and majestic. Its trunk often acquires a diameter of from two to three feet, and an elevation of eighty or ninety. In favourable situations it frequently exceeds these dimensions. Michaux measured a tree near Louisville in Kentucky, which at five feet from the ground was twenty two feet and an half in circumference, and which he estimated to be a hundred and twenty or a hundred and forty feet in height. Catesby informs us that the circumference is sometimes thirty feet.

The names of *Tulip tree*, *White wood*, *Canoe wood*, and *Poplar* are applied to this tree in different parts of the United States. Its flowering time is in the months of May and June.

The genus Liriodendron, to which Linnæus has assigned four species of trees, is characterized by *a double calyx, the outer of two, the inner of three leaves; petals six, seeds imbricated into a cone.*



The species tulipifera, the only one in America, is remarkably distinguished by its *lobed and truncated leaves.*

Together with several other of our finest flowering trees and shrubs, the Liriodendron is found in the class *Polyandria* and order *Polygynia*, and the natural orders *Coadunatæ* of Linnæus and *Magnoliæ* of Jussieu.

The branches of the Tulip tree are of a greyish colour inclining to red. The buds which terminate them in winter are very curiously constructed. They are obovate, and flattened or compressed into a sharp edge at the extremity. They are made up of a number of concentric sheaths, each of which contains a single miniature leaf between it and the next interior sheath. This leaf, instead of embracing the next sheath, is folded up and bent down upon one side of it. When vegetation begins in the spring the sheaths swell to a large size before bursting, and at length liberate the leaves one at a time, the remains of each sheath becoming converted into a stipule.

The leaves of the Tulip tree have a form altogether peculiar, and which is not resembled by any other production of our forests. They are divided into four pointed lobes and terminated by a shallow notch, the extremity being nearly

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